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CPYRGHT

## Spies in the News

WE HAVE LATELY been regaled by another tale of high emprise in the rarefied sphere of international espionage, this one involving a first-chop Polish agent of Soviet intelligence, who finked to wily agents of American counterintelligence, and spilled some beans that were smashers. He is reported to have said that official American posts abroad are crawling with infiltrated Soviet agents.

These tingling revelations are made public in a copyright article by a New York newspaper (not the Times) with a long tradition of gee-whiz reportage, and this circumstance multiplies and aggravates our uncertainty and confusion as we reflect on them. We are bored by defectors whose spillage is surely going to blow the whole Soviet spy machine into bits; we dearly love to catch the CIA in meddlesome corners, and we are annoyed by newspapers that inflate vague reports and thin rumors into a semblance of world-wide crisis.

In this case, therefore, we are still examining our position.